AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1.-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Withdrawn) A method for forming an optical fiber preform, the method comprising directing a product stream in a flowing reactor into a glass preform structure to harvest at least a portion of the product stream within a cavity in the glass preform structure.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 wherein the flowing reactor comprises a radiation beam intersecting a reactant stream at a reaction zone at which the product stream is generated.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein the radiation beam is generated by a laser.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 wherein the glass preform structure is within the reaction chamber when directing the product stream into the glass preform structure.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 wherein the product stream forms a powder coating comprising primary particles with an average primary particle diameter of no more than about 1 micron.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 wherein the product stream forms a powder coating comprising primary particles with an average primary particle diameter of no more than about 100 nm.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 wherein the flowing reactor comprises a reaction chamber and wherein the glass preform structure is external to the reaction chamber when directing the product stream into the glass preform structure.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18 wherein the product stream flows through a channel inserted within the cavity of the glass preform structure.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for forming an optical fiber preform, the method comprising inserting a[[n]] coated insert within a glass preform structure, the coated insert comprising a powder coating that was formed in a flowing reactor by placing the insert in a product stream of the flowing reactor, wherein the powder coating comprises rare earth metal particles having an average primary particle ~~size~~ diameter less than about a micron.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[21]] 20 wherein the flowing reactor comprises a radiation beam intersecting a reactant stream at a reaction zone at which the product stream is generated.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[21]] 20 wherein the insert is rotated when forming the coating.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the ~~coating comprises a powder coating having primary~~ particles have [[with]] an average primary particle diameter of no more than about 500 nm ~~1 micron~~.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the ~~coating comprises a powder coating having primary~~ particles have [[with]] an average primary particle diameter of no more than about 100 nm.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the coating is approximately uniformly distributed around the ~~rod~~ insert.

27. (Cancelled)

Please add new claims 28-38 as follows:

28. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein the radiation beam is generated by a laser.

29. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the flowing reactor comprises a reaction chamber and wherein the insert is within the reaction chamber when the insert is placed in the product stream.

30. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the flowing reactor comprises a reaction chamber and wherein the insert is external to the reaction chamber when the insert is placed in the product stream.

31. (New) A method for forming an optical fiber preform, the method comprising inserting a coated insert within a glass preform structure, the coated insert comprising a powder coating that was formed in a flowing reactor by placing an insert in a product stream of the flowing reactor, wherein the reaction to form the product stream is driven by a light beam intersecting a reactant stream at a reaction zone.

32. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the powder coating comprises particles having an average primary particle diameter less than about a micron.

33. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the powder coating comprises particles having an average primary particle diameter of no more than about 500 nm.

34. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the powder coating comprises particles having an average primary particle diameter of no more than about 100 nm.

35. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the particles comprise a rare earth metal.

36. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the insert is rotated when forming the coating.

37. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the coating is approximately uniformly distributed around the insert.

38. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the light beam is generated by a laser.